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CRAIG ON SCOTUS SECOND AMENDMENT RULING: 'HISTORIC DAY FOR ALL AMERICANS WHO CHERISH RIGHTS AS CITIZENS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION'

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Idaho Senator Larry Craig today applauded the Supreme Court's strong affirmation that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to own and use a firearm.

"This is an historic day for all Americans who cherish their rights as citizens under the Constitution," Craig said. "It is an especially important day for those of us who, over many years and against bitter opposition, have defended and advanced those rights.

"If the Second Amendment to our Constitution means anything, it means that individual Americans have a right to gun ownership – not just the militia, not only the National Guard and not just certain favored classes who can afford bodyguards and security personnel. It means that law-abiding Americans have a right – I would say, a God-given right – to defend themselves, their homes, and their families."

Craig, a life member of the National Rifle Association and a member of the NRA Board of Directors, introduced the only gun rights legislation enacted by the Congress in recent years and signed into law in October 2005. S. 397, Protection of the Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, protects lawabiding gun dealers and manufacturers from being held responsible in court for the criminal actions of third parties. The law was designed to put an end to predatory lawsuits which benefit trial lawyers rather than victims of violent crimes.